

IT Society Nomination and Appointments Committee report, January 2010

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As usual, January has been an extremely busy time for the N&A Committee (NAC). This year, in addition to naming members to the Shannon, Wyner and Awards Committees, the NAC named two new members and a Chair for the Fellows Committee. Also, the committee's timetable was more compressed than usual, because its final member was not chosen by the BoG until the end of December, and because the first BoG meeting this year is on January 31.

There are advantages to considering all of these committees together, and the NAC does not recommend any substantial change in its schedule. However, it would have helped to have started some time in December. Also, several Society members have complained that they would like to know the complete membership of next year's Fellows Committee when they begin the Fellows nomination process in December.

Recommendation. In future years the nominees for the NAC should be selected at the fall BoG meeting and voted on expeditiously, so that the NAC can begin its work on December 1. As its first order of business, the NAC should try to name the new Fellows Committee as soon as possible, preferably in December.

In addition to the Bylaws requirements and the other usual considerations for membership on these committees, this year the NAC tried to assist with the Society's objective that every BoG member should have at least one substantial assignment, *e.g.*, to a BoG committee. It was helpful that last year's outgoing President had canvassed the continuing and new BoG members for their preferences, and we recommend that this practice be continued in future years.

Fellows Committee

The Bylaws requirements for the Fellows Committee have recently been changed so that there are six members with three-year terms, two selected each year. Members must of course be IEEE Fellows, and this year preference was given to BoG members who have expressed interest in this assignment. The usual criteria of quality and balance were also applied. Finally, we needed to select a new chair.

The 2010 Fellows Committee will be:

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|-----------------------|------|
| Michelle Effros | 2012 |
| Michael Honig | 2010 |
| Hideki Imai | 2011 |
| Rolf Johannesson | 2012 |
| Marcelo Weinberger | 2011 |
| Frans Willems (chair) | 2010 |

Shannon Committee

The Bylaws requirements for the Shannon Award Selection Committee are quite stringent. The President (chair) and First and Second Vice Presidents are *ex officio* members. Of the seven members, at least three must be former Shannon Award winners, and at least one must be a former Editor-in-Chief of the IT Transactions. Finally, we continued the recent custom of carrying over non-officer members for a second year.

The 2010 Shannon Award Selection Committee will be:

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|---------------------------|------------|
| Frank Kschischang (chair) | President |
| Giuseppe Caire | 1VP |
| Muriel Médard | 2VP |
| Imre Csiszàr | continuing |
| Abbas El Gamal | new |
| Bob Gallager | new |
| Bob Gray | continuing |

Wyner Committee

The Bylaws requirements for the Wyner Award Selection Committee were set when the award was initiated. There are five members, with the President (chair), First Vice President and Junior Past President as *ex officio* members. We considered it desirable, now that there are six previous Wyner Award winners, to include some of them on this committee. Also, we believe that three officers are too many on a five-person committee.

The 2010 Wyner Award Selection Committee will be:

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|---------------------------|-----------|
| Frank Kschischang (chair) | President |
| Giuseppe Caire | 1VP |
| Andrea Goldsmith | JPP |
| Dick Blahut | new |
| Jack Wolf | new |

Recommendation. The Bylaws should be changed to require only two officers on the Wyner Committee, namely the President (chair) and Junior Past President. Also, of the five members, at least two should be former Wyner Award winners.

Awards Committee

The Bylaws specify that the First Vice President (chair) and the Second Vice President shall be members of the Awards Committee, and that at least four committee members shall have been Associate Editors within the past three years. The size of the committee is not specified, but in recent years it has been eleven.

The 2010 Awards Committee will be:

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|------------------------|------------|
| Giuseppe Caire (chair) | 1VP |
| Muriel Médard | 2VP |
| Sasha Barg | new |
| Max Costa | new |
| Elza Erkip | new |
| Andi Loeliger | new |
| Ueli Maurer | continuing |
| Li Ping | new |
| Hirosuke Yamamoto | new |
| En-hui Yang | continuing |
| Ram Zamir | continuing |

The NAC recommends that the officers and BoG discuss whether some minimum number of BoG members (in addition to the officers) be required by the Bylaws to be on the Awards Committee. We consider this to be desirable, but on the other hand it tends to happen naturally; *e.g.*, this year there will be three non-officer BoG members (Barg, Costa, Loeliger) on this committee.